

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

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Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A method of storing a respiring biological material wherein the respiring biological material is stored in a packaging atmosphere within a sealed container which

- 10 (a) has an interior surface at least part of which is composed of a hydrophilic polymer composition (HPC), and
- (b) comprises an auxiliary component comprising a second polymeric composition (i) which is not an HPC, and (ii) through which pass oxygen and carbon dioxide entering or leaving the packaging atmosphere.

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2. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1 which has at least one of the following characteristics

- (a) the auxiliary component has an R ratio of greater than 1, for example at least 1.5, ~~e.g. 2 to 4~~;
- 20 (b) the auxiliary component has a P₁₀ ratio of greater than 1, for example at least 1.3;
- (c) the auxiliary component comprises an atmosphere control member (ACM) comprising a microporous film having a coating of the polymer thereon, ~~the ACM optionally having one or both following characteristics~~
- 25 —— (i) —— ~~the polymer coated on the microporous film is a side chain crystalline (SCC) polymer, e.g. a block copolymer in which one of the blocks is an SCC polymer and the other block is a polysiloxane block, or~~
- ~~an amorphous polymer, e.g. a polysiloxane, and~~
- (ii) —— ~~the ACM provides at least 50%, for example at least 80% or at~~
- 30 —— ~~least 95%, e.g. 98-100%, of the total oxygen permeability of the sealed container;~~

(d) the auxiliary component is part of a laminate comprising a first layer composed of the HPC and a second layer composed of the second polymeric composition, the second layer optionally having one or more of the following characteristics

- 5 (i) it is less than 10, ~~e.g. 2-6,~~ micron thick,
(ii) it is composed of a polyolefin, ~~for example an ethylene polymer,~~
(iii) it is part of a three-layer laminate and is sandwiched between the first layer and a third layer, ~~for example a third layer composed of an HPC polymer, and~~
10 (iv) it has an MVTR of 50 to 250, ~~e.g. 150 to 250, preferably 100 to 220, particularly 140 to 200.~~

3. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~ wherein the HPC is in the form of a film ~~(including a film which is a layer in a laminate including one or more other layers)~~ having a window therein, and the auxiliary component covers the window.
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4. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ wherein the container comprises at least one first discrete section composed of the HPC and at least one second discrete section composed of the second polymeric composition.
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5. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1 ~~any one of preceding claims~~ wherein the HPC provides at least 25%, ~~e.g. at least 50% or at least 75% or at least 95% or substantially all,~~ of the interior surface of sealed container.
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6. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1 ~~any one of preceding claims~~ wherein ~~the total quantity of oxygen and carbon dioxide in the packaging atmosphere is less than 18%, for example~~ has an oxygen content of 2-5% and a carbon dioxide content of 5-10%.
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7. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ wherein the HPC composition comprises a polyamide, ~~for example nylon-6, nylon-66, nylon-6/66 or nylon-6/12, and/or comprises a blend of an HPC and a polymer which is not an HPC, e.g. an olefin polymer, e.g. polyethylene.~~

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8. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1 ~~any one of preceding claims~~ wherein a film consisting of the HPC, when immersed in water at 23°C, has an equilibrium water content of at least 6.0%, ~~e.g. at least 8.0%,~~ by weight based on the dry weight of the ~~their~~ composition.

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9. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ wherein a film consisting of the HPC, when exposed at 23°C to an atmosphere having a relative humidity of 50%, has an equilibrium water content of ~~at least 2.0%, e.g. at least 2.4%,~~ by weight, based on the dry weight of the composition.

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10. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ wherein the respiring biological material is bananas.

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11. (Currently amended) A sealable container which, when sealed around a respiring biological material, is suitable for use in the method of claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ and which

(a) has an interior surface at least part of which is composed of a hydrophilic polymer composition (HPC), and

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(b) comprises an auxiliary component comprising a second polymeric composition (i) which is not an HPC, and (ii) through which pass oxygen and carbon dioxide entering or leaving the packaging atmosphere.

12. (Currently amended) A sealed container which is suitable for use in the method of claim 1 ~~any one of the claims 1 to 10~~ and which

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(a) has an interior surface at least part of which is composed of a hydrophilic polymer composition (HPC), and

(b) comprises an auxiliary component comprising a second polymeric composition (i) which is not an HPC, and (ii) through which pass oxygen and carbon dioxide entering or leaving the packaging atmosphere.

5 13. (Currently amended) A laminate which is suitable for use in a container as defined in claim 11 and which

(a) comprises a first layer composed of an HPC and a second layer which is composed of a second polymeric composition which is not an HPC, and

10 (b) has a thickness such that its moisture vapor transmission rate is 50 to 250, ~~e.g. 150 to 250, preferably 100 to 220, particularly 140 to 200.~~

14. (Currently amended) A laminate according to claim 13 wherein ~~which has one or more following characteristics~~

(a) the second layer has one or more of the following characteristics

15 (i) it is less than 10, ~~e.g. 2-6~~, micron thick,

(ii) it is composed of an olefin polymer, ~~for example polyethylene or another ethylene polymer,~~ and

(iii) it is part of a three-layer laminate and is sandwiched between the first layer and a third layer, ~~for example a third layer composed of an HPC.~~

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15. (New) A method according to claim 1 wherein the HPC comprises polylactic acid.

16. (New) A sealable container according to claim 11 wherein the HPC comprises polylactic acid.

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17. (New) A sealed container according to claim 12 wherein the HPC comprises polylactic acid.

18. (New) a laminate according to claim 13 wherein the HPC comprises polylactic acid.

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